given in Statement (*See* below) the madrassa modernization component of Area Intensive and Madrassa Modernization Programme (AIMMP) has been revamped in the Eleventh Plan as a separate scheme of Providing Quality Education in Madrassas (SPQEM) to encourage traditional institutions like Madrassas/Maktabs/Darululooms to introduce science, mathematics, social studies, language and English in their curriculum so that academic proficiency for classes I-XII is attainable for children studying in these institutions. The scheme also provides for linkages with the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for both academic and vocational aspects of education. The State Governments have received the new scheme recently and it is their responsibility to submit cases for Central Government funding.

Statement

Recommendations of the expert committee on modernization of Madarsas

1. To linkup Darul-ulooms with NIOS-Syllabus *i.e.* 10+2 under madarsa modernization scheme.
2. Expenditure towards registration of Darul-Uloom students with NIOS, cost of text books and study materials, examination fees be borne under madarsa modernziation scheme.
3. Financial grant for providing infrastructure facilities for the construction/expansion of libraries; computer labs, toilets and girls' rooms; hostel and class rooms in Darul-ulooms.
4. To linkup madarsa and Darul-Uloom students with Vocational Education and Training Programmes run by NIOS.
5. All the minority related schemes including the madarsa modernziation scheme and area intensive scheme be implemented directly by the Central Government or through NIOS or any other Central Agency.
6. To establish computer training centers in Madarsas/Darul-uloom under MMS.
7 Special English coaching classes for Darul-uloom students be organized by appointing part-time teachers, expenditure for which may be borne under MMS.
8. Old Islamic libraries and research centers may be strengthened by bringing them under the madarsa modernization scheme.
9. Sufficient budgets be provided under madarsa modernization scheme for community modernization, publicity and research studies.

Propagation of Sanskrit

†2195. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enter into any agreement with other countries to propagate Sanskrit language like Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the Lal Bahadur Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth has made any proposal to the Ministry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Attendance criteria for board examinations

2196. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBSE has issued a circular to the schools that students not having 75 per cent attendance will not be eligible for 10th and 12th standards Board Examinations this academic year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it was not issued before starting of schools in July, if so, whether it would seriously affect students who had availed more holidays for sickness, social functions, *etc.*; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to protect students' interests including setting aside the said circular or reducing compulsory attendance to 65-70 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Rule 13.1 (i) of CBSE's Examination Bye-Laws, states that candidates should have 75% of attendance in the classes held: counted from the day of commencement of teaching of classes IX/X/XI/XI1 as the case may be upto the 1st of the month preceding the month in which the examination of the School/Board commences. As per this rule, Heads of institutions shall not allow a candidate to take examination(s) unless the candidate fulfills the attendance requirement as given in this Rule. CBSE *vide* its circular dated 22.9.2008, has reiterated this provision to Heads of its affiliated Schools.

(c) and (d) This is an existing provision of the CBSE Examination Bye-Laws. It was reiterated by CBSE through a circular dated 22.9.2008. If any student has availed of leave on account of sickness, shortage upto 15% can be considered for condonation by the Chairman of CBSE on the recommendation of the Principal of the school.

Agitation against NCERT syllabus in Kerala

2197. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an agitation in Kerala by Thirusur Diocese of Catholic Church on the one side and 12 leaders of Muslim Organisations on the other, against the syllabus (2007) prescribed by NCERT;

(b) if so, what is the effect and the fate of the prescribed syllabus; and